

Monroe County OAAB Meeting April 5th, 2012 Minutes

Chairperson Fran Carlisle called the meeting to order @ 10:05am. She welcomed members & guests. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Jim Olsen moved & John Grech 2nd the motion to accept the minutes. Motion passed.

There was no County Commissioner at the meeting.

Jerry Smith, Monroe County Growth Management spoke on permits & the permitting process. He is working on shortening the time frame & simplifying the process to a 2 page form that 10 to 15 people will review during the application process. Mr. Smith used window installations as an example of how product approval forms on installation can affect the inspection process. He stated that our wind storm insurance regulations can also affect the process thru requirements which can lower our insurance rates. He stated the department is here to represent us & we need to check on contractors we hire to make sure they are licensed as well as if a permit is needed. Jerry told us code enforcement is separate from permitting & code enforcement does not report to permitting. The code books are now in a couple of volumes vs. the 13 volumes & 8 code books when he arrived. He believes in K.I.S.S. and the department is more lenient in getting single family residence thru the process. We shouldn't be afraid to call or ask questions. If we have a problem with an inspector or contractor he would like to hear about it. He also talked about the downstairs enclosures, flood insurance & FEMA. He informed us there are 2 people who do flood inspections which are mandated by the feds. Other items discussed were handicap ramps, setbacks, settling of houses and owner/builder responsibility & permits as well as ADA parking space size limits (12x20 ft.).

Jerry mentioned that the present minimum of \$1000 worth of work may be raised to \$2500 before you need a permit. This may depend on the scope of work so please check to see if that happens. Painting or putting carpet in your home doesn't require a permit, however there are carpet noise code requirements for condos. Jerry said he now makes county workers get permits when needed. Mr. Smith ended by saying the building department is there not to make money, but rather to keep your property safe & code compliant. They work for us.

Marlene Steckley brought Matt Massoud and introduced him to us. She announced weatherization grant funding was still available. Also that they were waiting to hear when more rental assistance money might be available. Marlene said she would let us know when the grant was approved, but the money goes fast. She told us the Governor's Medicaid bill might be a \$800,000 hit to Monroe County taxpayers for billing mistakes & out of area visitors that Sheryl had been able to remove from our bill before & now will have to pay. This action might lead to a lawsuit with other Counties if the Governor signs the bill. Issues brought up by OAAB members to Marlene were could recycling be done at the Centers instead of going in the trash; homeless issues at the Key West Senior Center; who repairs Senior Center air conditioner units - (the County Marlene answered); the County & Alliance budgets.

Michael Salem of S.T.E.P.S. talked about his computer grant & his grant of working with grandparents raising grandkids. Jose Clero was introduced from Miami who had a durable medical equipment. It was stated that the County used our volunteer hours for the nutrition program grant match for meals. Big Pine Key Senior Center stated they needed a wheel chair & Michael Salem of S.T.E.P.S. said he would provide one.

No additional old business or new business was discussed. Motion was made by John & 2nd by Diver to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

The next meeting will be Thursday, June 7th at 10am at the Marathon Library meeting room.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted By Pam Martin, OAAB Secretary